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Again, there is the instance I have given of the Spaniards who have been 300 years settled in various parts of America, sometimes on the table land of the Andes, and sometimes upon the very level of the sea, almost on the Equator; they are the same complexion that they were when they quitted Aragon and Andalusia. Then there are the Parsees of Hindostan. They migrated from Persia about one thousand years ago. They have kept themselves free from admixture with the Indians, and they are as fair at this day as when they left the mountains of Persia, although they are settled at Bombay in the 18th degree of latitude. Mention has been made of the Jews who have settled in India. There are two classes of Jews. There are the white Jews, who have kept themselves pure, and who at this day, though settled as far down in Hindostan as the Deccan, in the 18th degree of latitude, are as fair as the Jews in Palestine. But, then, there are what are called black Jews. These are converts, the descendants of people that have mixed with the lowest classes of the Hindoos, and they are properly speaking of the Hindoo race. There is no such thing as a change of complexion on their part. The white Jews are as white as when they left Palestine, and the black Jews are as black as the rest of the Hindoos, of which stock they are composed. The same may be said of the Portuguese. It is said,—See how black the Portuguese have become in India! Not at all. The Portuguese who have kept themselves pure from Indian admixture are as fair as Portuguese in Portugal. Those who usually go under the name of Portuguese are converted Hindoos with Portuguese names. They are of the lowest castes of Hindoos; and very often they are blacker than the ordinary race of Hindoos. Depend upon it neither the form nor the complexion is changed by climate.

DR. WORTHINGTON.—I beg to say that Mr. Crawford is contradicted in that opinion by most of the travellers that I have spoken to on the subject. The Arabs and Jews are justly admitted to be the two nations that never mingle with others. Yet we have black Arabs of the Jordan; and we have black Jews in Hindostan, retaining, in every possible character except the complexion, the Jewish physiognomy; and what is more, retaining records of their race which stamp them to be Jews at the dispersion.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES.

1. *Mémoire sur le Soudan.* Par M. le Comte d'ESCAVRAC DE LAUTURE.
Paris, 1855-6.

THE French conquest of Algeria has eminently directed the attention of French geographers to the exploration of the interior of the African continent, and within the last quarter of a century important additions have certainly been made to our knowledge of that widely extended region. The work before us is a résumé of what is known concerning that part of Central Africa between Lake Chád on the west, and Kordofan on the east, comprising a part of Bornu, the territories of Bagharmi, Wadai, and Darfur, and some others of less consideration; it has been mainly extracted from the 'Bulletin de la Société de Géographie.' It is accompanied by a chart, embracing the countries between lat. 6° and 16° N., and long. 13° 20' and 31° 20' E., and on which the various routes which have been followed by travellers there are laid down. The same chart includes a portion of the course of the White

Nile, and illustrates to a minor extent the expedition of M. Thibaut up that river (to which journey a short notice following these remarks will be found appropriated).

M. de Lauture informs us at the outset (p. 6), that the Sudan is "not more unhealthy than the French possessions in Africa, that its inhabitants are often found very hospitable, and that it is neither difficult to visit it nor to become acquainted with it." Yet in the same page we are apprised that it is only persons who have become acclimated to tropical regions, and are acquainted with the language, customs, and peculiarities of the nations inhabiting them—and especially of those of Arab descent—who are fitted to become explorers of the Sudan. He afterwards dilates upon the difficulties of obtaining previous information, at all approaching to accuracy, relative to the countries which the explorer proposes to visit. As showing how much necessity there is for the traveller to be on his guard against mendacity on the part of pretended guides, he tells a pleasant story (p. 10) of one of these *savans*, professedly a native of the banks of Lake Châd, who, on being asked the route from Sydney to Peking, declared that he knew both places perfectly well, that the former was situated near his native locality, and the latter twelve days' journey westward, the route between the two passing, amongst other places, through Tripoli!

A sketch is given of the hydrography of the region of the Sudan already indicated, which includes notices of Lake Châd, the river Chari flowing into it from the Lake Koei-dabo, near lat. 7° N., the Lake Debaba in Bagharmi, Lake Fitri, the Batha, or chain of marshes which seems to bound Wadai or Bergou on the south, together with the Keilah and Kouan rivers, which, uniting near Lake Nu (lat. $9\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, long. 29° , according to the chart), would appear to connect this system of waters with that of the White Nile. The author next treats of the geographical distribution of the animals and the human races inhabiting this region. In his remarks on the former he states that in the territory watered as above described, an animal with a long moveable horn has been rumoured to exist, which he describes as follows:—"This monoceros, called *ab-garu*, that is 'father,' or 'master of the horn,' carries on the forehead a long and straight horn, either striped like Egyptian alabaster, or black. This horn is moveable on a sort of fleshy and erectile peduncle. The *ab-garu* usually suffers it to fall down in front; he straightens it for combat, and tosses his enemy so as to make the latter fall on a smaller horn situated behind the foregoing" (p. 36). This is doubtless the same animal mentioned by the Baron von Müller in his travels in Africa (Journal of the Royal Geographical Society, vol. xx., part 2, p. 283) under the name of the *anasa*, and reported to him to inhabit the country south of Kordofan. The descriptions of the long and pendulous horn in both accounts are singularly consistent, and if confirmed, the unicorn can no longer be considered a fabulous animal. M. de Lauture observes on the report of the Africans respecting it, "I do not guarantee its veracity, but I incline to the belief that the *ab-garu* really exists." A much less probable rumour is that of the existence of a race of men with tails, who have domesticated a race of camels no larger than asses, and who are said to live west of the lake Koei-dabo. According to our author, however, this legend has currency throughout all the African continent.

In the sections which he has devoted to such meagre portions of the history of Central Africa as he has been able to collect, M. de Lauture gives lists of successive sovereigns of the Fellatahs, of Bornu, Kanem, Mandara, Kotoko, Bagharmi, Fitri, Medogo, Wadai, and Darfur; but it is to be regretted that no corresponding dates can be, or at any rate are, placed against their names, so as to indicate their contemporaries in the history of the civilized world. Lists of itineraries, and accounts of the domestic industry, institutions, dis-

inctive marks, political intercourse, warlike arts, religion, and superstitions of the nations of the Sudan, occupy the remainder of the treatise, which is worthy of perusal.

2. *Expédition à la Recherche des Sources du Nil* (1839-40). *Journal de M. THIBAUT, publié par les soins de M. le Comte d'ESCAIRAC de LAUTURE.*

THIS is a narrative of a companion of M. d'Arnaud, who, under the auspices of Mehemet Ali, made several expeditions up the White Nile, which he ascended as high as lat. $4^{\circ} 42' N$. The journal of M. d'Arnaud was published in the 'Bulletin de la Société de Géographie' in 1842. M. Thibaut accompanied that explorer in his first expedition as far up the White Nile as lat. $6^{\circ} 33'$, in the winter of 1839-40.

On their leaving Khartum, Mehemet Ali, the ruler of Egypt, assembled the members of the expedition in the grand divan of the Governor of Nubia, and thus addressed them in giving his parting instructions:—"I do not enter into those countries as a conqueror; be prudent; make presents worthy of me; acquire the good will of the savage people, whom, no doubt, you will meet with in great number; obtain their friendship by benefits. The troops which attend you are only for your protection, and not for attack." This oration, delivered "with that amenity which distinguished him," was truly paternal. It will be hereafter seen how the instructions of the Pasha were carried out. The expedition consisted, besides the special officers, of 400 infantry soldiers, under the command of an adjutant-major and a certain Soliman Cachef, and was conveyed in five gun-boats and five other boats, accompanied by fifteen river transports, carrying provisions for eight months, and munitions of war. It left Khartum on Nov. 16, and in the journal of M. Thibaut, under the date of the 18th, we find the following description:—"The White Nile is not dangerous from sandbanks, as is the Blue Nile; its course is interspersed with numerous islands, which increase in number on proceeding southward. It is of pretty equal depth, but during the season of low water its navigation is difficult, from shell-banks and fallen trees which encumber its bed." The banks on both sides are described as in most parts fertile and well-wooded.

The memoir is unaccompanied by any map. No barometrical, and very few thermometrical observations are recorded; nor are the latitudes and longitudes given of any of the places mentioned. These are disadvantages which very much detract from the value of the narrative as a geographical record. The descriptions of the countries traversed are, however, by no means destitute of interest. On arriving at Lake Nu (which is laid down in the chart attached to the work previously noticed), where several rivers disemboque, the expedition took the wrong track, and ascended a river which was found to be impassable for the flotilla, owing to a vast depth of mud. Ultimately the vessels retraced their course, a distance of 45 miles, and at length rediscovered the main stream of the White Nile, which, above Lake Nu, comes from the south-east.

The Egyptian troops appear soon afterwards, from the details given, to have become ungovernable by their officers; and the latter were imposed upon by a lying or suspicious dragoman. Amongst other exploits, on the 4th of January, whilst in the country of the Kyks, and after a supply of oxen had been afforded to the expedition by the natives, a crowd of the latter assembled on the banks of the river, either attracted by curiosity, or desirous to exchange their weapons and bracelets for glass beads and other ornaments, "when the dragoman, or interpreter, gave notice that the natives opposed the passage.